

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A honeycomb carrier for an exhaust gas-cleaning catalyst wherein, the material for the honeycomb carrier is an aluminum magnesium titanate sintered product obtained by firing at from 1,000 to 1,700°C a raw mixture comprising:

100 parts by mass, as calculated as oxides, of a mixture comprising a Mg-containing compound, an Al-containing compound and a Ti-containing compound in the same metal component ratio as the metal component ratio of Mg, Al and Ti in an aluminum magnesium titanate represented by the empirical formula  $Mg_xAl_{2(1-x)}Ti_{(1+x)}O_5$  (wherein  $0 < x < 1$ ); and

from 1 to 10 parts by mass of an alkali feldspar represented by the empirical formula  $(Na_yK_{1-y})AlSi_3O_8$  (wherein  $0 < y < 1$ ).

Claims 2-3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The honeycomb carrier according to Claim 1, having a wall thickness in a range of 0.05 to 0.6 mm, a cell density in a range of 15 to 124 cells/cm<sup>2</sup>, a porosity of the partition wall in a range of 20 to 50%, and a thermal expansion coefficient of at most  $3.0 \times 10^{-6} K^{-1}$ .

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The honeycomb carrier according to Claim 1, wherein the catalyst comprises an alkali metal or alkaline earth metal component to remove NO<sub>x</sub> in the exhaust gas.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The honeycomb carrier according to Claim 1, wherein the exhaust gas is an exhaust gas of an automobile wherein a fuel is directly jetted into an engine, or of a system wherein a fuel is diluted and burned.

Claims 7-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The honeycomb carrier according to claim 1, wherein the raw mixture comprises the alkali feldspar represented by the empirical formula  $(\text{Na}_y\text{K}_{1-y})\text{AlSi}_3\text{O}_8$  where y ranges from 0.15 to 0.85.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The honeycomb carrier according to claim 1, wherein the raw mixture comprises the alkali feldspar in amounts in a range of 3 to 5 parts by mass.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The honeycomb carrier according to claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the raw mixture is less than 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The honeycomb carrier according to claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the raw mixture is in a range of 1 to 5  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The honeycomb carrier according to claim 1, wherein the firing temperature is in a range of 1250 to 1450°C.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The honeycomb carrier according to Claim 1, wherein the catalyst comprises potassium.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The honeycomb carrier according to Claim 1, wherein said honeycomb carrier does not show a peak of  $\text{KAlSiO}_4$  in the vicinity of  $2\theta=28^\circ$  in X-ray diffraction measurement in comparison to a honeycomb carrier of aluminum magnesium titanate without the alkali feldspar after a test is carried out, wherein the test comprises dipping the honeycomb carriers in an aqueous potassium nitrate solution at a concentration of 1 mol/liter, drying them and holding them in a furnace maintained at a temperature of  $900^\circ\text{C}$  for 100 hours.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The honeycomb carrier according to Claim 1, wherein said honeycomb carrier does not show a peak of  $\text{KAlSiO}_4$  in the vicinity of  $2\theta=28^\circ$  in X-ray diffraction measurement in comparison to a honeycomb carrier of aluminum magnesium titanate without the alkali feldspar after a test is carried out, wherein the test comprises dipping the honeycomb carriers in an aqueous potassium nitrate solution at a concentration of 1 mol/liter, drying them and holding them in a furnace maintained at a temperature of  $900^\circ\text{C}$  for 150 hours.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The honeycomb carrier according to Claim 1, wherein said honeycomb carrier does not show a peak of  $\text{KAlSiO}_4$  in the vicinity of  $2\theta=28^\circ$  in X-ray diffraction measurement in comparison to a honeycomb carrier of aluminum magnesium titanate without the alkali feldspar after a test is carried out, wherein the test comprises dipping the honeycomb carriers in an aqueous potassium nitrate solution at a concentration of 1 mol/liter, drying them and holding them in a furnace maintained at a temperature of  $900^\circ\text{C}$  for 200 hours.

Claim 21 (New): The honeycomb carrier according to Claim 1, wherein the material for the honeycomb carrier is an aluminum magnesium titanate sintered product obtained by firing at from 1,000 to 1,700°C a raw mixture comprising:

100 parts by mass, as calculated as oxides, of a mixture comprising a Mg-containing compound, an Al-containing compound and a Ti-containing compound in the same metal component ratio as the metal component ratio of Mg, Al and Ti in an aluminum magnesium titanate represented by the empirical formula  $Mg_xAl_{2(1-x)}Ti_{(1+x)}O_5$  (wherein  $0 < x < 1$ ); and

from 1 to 10 parts by mass of an alkali feldspar represented by the empirical formula  $(Na_yK_{1-y})AlSi_3O_8$  (wherein  $0 < y < 1$ ), and

the honeycomb carrier has a remaining ratio  $\beta$  (%) of aluminum titanate of greater than 85% after held at 1000°C for 100 hrs.